United Nations E/CN.5/2018/NGO/3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
30 October 2017

Original: English

Commission for Social Development
Fifty-sixth session
31 January–7 February 2018
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: priority theme: strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all

Statement submitted by People of Good Heart, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

17-19112 (E) 301017

Please recycle

Statement

STRATEGY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL

Poverty is a very big constraint to development. It is therefore very essential for any nation who is agitating to develop to eradicate poverty in every ramification to the barest minimum.

Poverty in its literary meaning is a condition that is, a situation where the living condition of the generality of the people in the state is below average. For instance, people cannot afford the normal three square meals, the literacy level is low, access to portable water, good roads, health facilities, transportation and all other necessary facilities that are important for normal and healthy growth of individual is at low ebb.

WAY OUT

a. EDUCATION: Education plays a very important role to individual and the nation as a whole for even development and eradication of poverty. With qualitative and sound education, people are exposed to many areas where to improve their living condition and to break loose from poverty. People through awareness will explore every available avenue to raise their standard of living.

b. AGRICULTURE: A hungry man is an angry man goes the saying. A person who cannot afford the required three square meals is said to be below the poverty line. The government has a very big and vital role to play in this regard to make sure that the citizenry is well fed. Mechanized family, supply of modern and vital farm implement provision of herbicides, fertilizer etc. at a subsidized rate, making available land, tractors to farmers to assist them during cultivation and harvesting and also making sure that the finished goods, the outputs, have adequate means of evacuation from the farms which in most cases are rural to urban areas where it will receive adequate market.

Government should also encourage and advise its citizen to take agriculture as a necessary hobby if not as a full-time job. The farmers both peasant and mechanized should also be encouraged for better performance and efficiency.

c. HEALTH: Health is wealth no doubt; a healthy man will be energized to go about his business healthily. To this end the governments also have a vital role to play in this direction.

Well-equipped hospitals should be provided for the people (both in the rural and urban areas) of the country. Medical personnel that are professionally qualified should be posted to these hospitals. Personnel in the rural areas should be encouraged to stay. This may be through incentives such as allowances or any other incentives as may be deemed fit.

Necessary drugs and all other facilities should also be provided. Training and re-training of medical personnel is also very important to ensure that they are up-to-date in their different profession.

Research should be conducted by the personnel especially during an outbreak of strange diseases. This will also help in reducing the mortality rate

d. INFORMATION/PUBLIC AWARENESS:

Information plays a vital role in the development of a nation; A nation that is developed automatically reduces the poverty level of her citizenry.

The public should be encouraged and enlightened to make them always available to information that may lead them to take advantage of any opportunity that may be of immense benefit to them. This will in turn enhance more means of livelihood.

Through the availability and access to majority of the news media like radio, television, newspaper, and magazines (especially the local ones) people are bound to seize some advantage to improve their living condition.

Government, through the necessary government agencies responsible for spreading information, should not limit their services to the urban areas alone, the rural areas should also be touched.

f. COMMERCE/INDUSTRY

For any nation to bail herself or to reduce the poverty level, establishment of industry and the encouragement of commercial activities plays a very prominent and important role.

Industries should be located where availability of its raw materials is closer. That is nearness to raw material is very important to reduce cost of production, if cost of production and other necessary input are reduced to the barest minimum, the output will cost less thereby making it possible for people to buy at a reduced cost.

Commercial activities in various form should be encouraged in both the cities and the rural areas to reduce the rate of rural/urban migration, thereby reducing the over population in the major cities in the country. It will also reduce the rate of employment.

g. ADMINISTRATION

The government of any nation is solely responsible for the administration of the nation.

Good government produces good administration, vice-versa. The government responsibility is to ensure that the welfare of her citizenry be given priority through the provision of all facilities that will make the citizen comfortable.

Corruption, greed, avarice, ignorance, selfishness, nepotism and tribalism should be discouraged in all its ramifications.

The budget of a nation should be well prepared to take care of the common man in the society the implementation should be monitored efficiently and effectively. All agencies that are responsible for the implementation of the budget must be very experienced in their various professions. The rule of law plays a very prominent role in good governance. The various arms of government that is, the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislative should play their role without fear on farmer provision of potable water, good roads, electricity, transportation and all other amenities that will make life comfortable for the common man should be embarked upon.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, all avenues should be explored to provide employment for the generality the youth in the society.

Loans with low interest can be given to youth to be self-employed to enable them to contribute to the growth of the economy.

Artisans, farmers and all other categories of workers can also benefit from the loan scheme, with project monitoring and follow-up this loan will be paid back at the stipulated time.